

# ECONOMIC COUNCIL LETTER

September 15, 1958

1930 — 1958

Letter No. 439

## About the Platform for Patriotic Americans

**M**ILLIONS of Americans of both major Parties are deeply concerned over the trend of events of recent years in the United States.

In the brief period of three Presidential Administrations the United States as a nation has suffered an almost unbroken series of political and moral defeats in the face of the communist empire. And our Government has permitted the country domestically to be torn with needless turmoil and brought close to the edge of bankruptcy.

If these trends continue, and only the Congress of the United States can or will call a halt, the days of our independence as a nation, and of our liberties as a people, are numbered. We can lose both in a matter of a year or so.

It is a known fact that most Representatives and Senators in Washington will vote as they think the people back home want.

The "liberals" and left-wingers, including many high up in the Administration, and the vast numbers of citizens who, consciously or unconsciously, are influenced by communism and one-worldism,

never fail to tell their candidates and legislators what *they* want.

But the United States is in its present frightening mess because we conservatives who wish to keep our country independent and the people free, have too seldom told either candidates or legislators what *we conservatives* want.

Hence the contents of this Council Letter, which, with the accompanying non-partisan Platform, is presented in the hope that it will serve as a useful tool for citizens everywhere, who, singly, or banded together in groups, wish to present vital matters to Congressional and Senate candidates.

It will be observed by some that the accompanying platform omits one or another issue that might have been included. But those who drew it up decided that the perfect platform might never be produced—no matter how much time was devoted to it. So it seemed that a brief list of planks would be of greatest service at this time.

In the light of the above, the following letter explains itself.

### DEAR FELLOW CITIZEN:

On August 18, 1958, a small group of men met for the purpose, not of forming another pro-American organization, but of drafting a Platform or Declaration of Principles that would appeal to all Americans who wish to preserve the freedom and independence of the United States.

Robert B. Dresser, of Providence, Rhode Island, was elected Chairman of the meeting, and Merwin K. Hart, of New York City, Secretary. Edward A. Rumely later agreed to act as Assistant or Temporary Secretary. A draft of a Platform had previously been submitted to the group, and this was used as a basis for discussion.

The result of the meeting was the enclosed "Platform for Patriotic Americans" which, at the conclusion of the meeting, was signed by: Robert B. Dresser, Merwin K. Hart, Earl Harding, Edward A. Rumely, and Percy L. Greaves, Jr.

The Platform has already been endorsed by more than 100. You will observe that a few of the endorsers have excepted one or more planks. This was to be expected. No political platform has ever met with the complete approval of all the members of the Party, or even of all the members of the Resolutions or Platform Committee that drafted it. If unanimous approval of

all planks were required, no political platform would ever be adopted. The test should be whether the Platform "in the main" is one with which an individual or an organization agrees.

This Platform is being sent to a large number of existing organizations and individuals in the hope that they may wish to adopt and support it as their own. It is our belief that this will be of assistance to the citizens of the various States and Congressional Districts in selecting vital issues.

If you desire to endorse the Platform, please sign a copy and return it to the address below. Another copy will thereupon be sent you for your records. We should appreciate also your advising us of any further action you, or any organization with which you are connected, may take.

It is hoped that many editors of newspapers and periodicals may find the Platform of sufficient merit to present it to their readers with or without editorial comment. If used in any way, we shall be glad to have tear sheets for our records.

Never was our nation in greater danger.

Never was it so important that agreement be reached on the basic measures needed to save it.

*Merwin K. Hart*

Address your correspondence to that one of the following two persons by whom this letter is signed:

- (1) **MERWIN K. HART**  
National Economic Council, Inc.  
7501 Empire State Building  
New York 1, New York
- (2) **DR. EDWARD A. RUMELY**  
Committee for Constitutional Government, Inc.  
202 East 44th Street  
New York 17, New York

P.S. The enclosed Platform is being offered to many individuals and organizations. It needs to be widely distributed in the press and by direct mail. Funds devoted exclusively to this work are hereby solicited and can do a highly effective job.

Your suggestions as to how to secure wider distribution and nation-wide support will be appreciated.

We wish to emphasize, however, that contributions are entirely voluntary and that endorsing the Platform involves no obligation to make a contribution.

On UNITED STATES DAY, OCTOBER 23, let us this year emphasize that our Federal Government is a creature of the States; its powers come from grants of authority voluntarily ceded to it by the States and by the people of the several States.

Let it never be forgotten that these powers can, by due process, be shaped to the will of the people. Do not let the Federal Government, your creature, take from you, its creators, powers which you never yielded to it, nor intended it to have.

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*This Council Letter may be quoted in whole or part provided due credit is given to the National Economic Council, Inc., Empire State Building, New York 1, N. Y., and quotation is specified to be from Economic Council Letter 439, September 15, 1958.*

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